

A democratic society needs diverse sources of information and points of view. Public airwaves should be used to serve this need, not strictly for commercial purposes. Deregulation of ownership and control of broadcasting will result in further concentration of ownership and control which will be detrimental to democracy. We do not want our airwaves controlled by a handful of large corporations anymore than we want them controlled by the government. Free markets may produce the greatest economic efficiencies, but that is not always the most important consideration. In the case of broadcasting, diversity of ownership and control and diversity of sources of information is clearly a more important consideration.

I urge the FCC to retain the current rules on ownership of broadcast media.

-Richard R. Thweatt